

ALFRETON URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of Medical Officer of Health and
Chief Sanitary Inspector

For Year 1938,

To which is added certain details
by the Surveyor for the same Year.

SIDNEY O. BINGHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

Medical Officer of Health.

CHARLES TINGLE, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

R. F. WARD, M.I.M.C.E.,

Surveyor and Water Engineer.

The Urban District Council of Alfreton.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Public Health Committee :

COUNCILLOR J. C. KITTS (Chairman).

Members : All the Members of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

*DR. S. O. BINGHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

District Medical Officer under the Poor Law Acts,
and Public Vaccinator :

DR. W. J. PHILLIPS.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

*CHARLES TINGLE, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(Cert. for Meat and Food Inspection).

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

*E. MERCER, CERT. R.S.I. AND S.I.E.J.B., M.S.I.A.

(Cert. for Meat and Food Inspection).


Shops Act Inspector :

Clerk :

Disinfector, &c. :

G. HOLLINGSWORTH. B. F. VARLEY. T. BURNHAM.

**Exchequer Grant Contribution to Salary,*



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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1938.

Public Health Department,
Cornhill House,
Alfreton.

May, 1939.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District
Council of Alfreton.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1938, and those of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor. I am instructed by the Minister of Health that it will be sufficient if the information given (with the exception of certain items) is limited to a record of alterations, improvements or developments which have taken place during the year; and that it will not be necessary to repeat matter which has appeared in previous Reports, save where it is wished to call attention to old defects not yet remedied.

The Report is presented under the following headings:—

- Section A.—Statistics and Social Conditions;
- „ B.—General Provision of Health Services for the Area;
- „ C.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area;
- „ D.—Housing;
- „ E.—Inspection and Supervision of Food;
- „ F.—Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

A report of work done under the Factories Act, 1937, is also included.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Registrar General's estimate of resident population, mid-1938:

Area in acres: Land, 4,947; Water, 49; Total, 4,996.

Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book: 6,192.

Rateable Value: Alfreton, £85,270; Codnor Park, £2,796; Total, £88,066.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £366 18s. 10d. (Gross) ;
£335 (Net).

Vital Statistics.

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate ...	312	160	152
Illegitimate ...	13	5	8
Still Births—Legitimate ...	24	8	16
Illegitimate ...	0	0	0
Deaths, all ages ...	218	119	99
Deaths under one year ...	21	10	11
A.—Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 14.87.			
B.—Still births per 1,000 (live and still) births, 73.07.			
C.—Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 9.88.			

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No. 29.—Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
No. 30.—Other puerperal causes ...	1	2.85
Total ...	1	2.85

Death rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants, per 1,000 live births ...	64.61
Legitimate Infants, per 1,000 legitimate births ...	67.30
Illegitimate Infants, per 1,000 illegitimate births ...	76.92
Total Deaths—Legitimate ...	20
Illegitimate ...	1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	31
„ Measles (all ages) ...	0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	3
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)...	0

The birth rate has risen from 14.53 in 1937 to 14.87 in 1938.

The crude death rate has fallen from 10.71 in 1937 to 9.88 in 1938.

The infant death rate has risen from 56.11 in 1937 to 64.61 in 1938.

The number of live births has risen from 319 in 1937 to 325 in 1938.

The number of deaths under one year has risen from 18 to 21 ; of these the cause of death in 16 cases was premature birth or some calamity at birth.

The population is estimated to have fallen from 21,950 to 21,850.

Social Conditions of the Area.

Chief Industries :—

Coal Mining (this is the chief industry) ;
 Iron Foundries ;
 Chemical Works (gas tar) ;
 Agriculture ;
 Railways ;
 Textile, Hosiery, etc.

There has been no change in the chief industries during the year. There is no evidence that the occupation or environment of the people in this District have been more prejudicial to health than in the country as a whole. This applies also to the effects of unemployment.

The conditions of life are similar in all the wards of the District, and I have not been able to find any facts which would make comparative observation valuable. Moreover, I have not information as to the population of the individual Wards, so that statistical considerations cannot be made.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

(a) Laboratory facilities. These are supplied by the County Council.

(b) Ambulance facilities. No change has been made during the year.

(c) Nursing in the home. No change has been made during the year.

(d) The Clinic and Treatment Centres. These, the Ante-Natal Clinic, Child Welfare, etc., are in charge of the County Council Staff.

(e) Hospitals. Those available are the same as last year.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1.—Water, drainage, sewerage. Details are given in the Surveyor's Report included in this Report.

2.—Pollution.

3.—(1) Closet accommodation ;

(2) Public cleansing ;

- (3) Sanitary inspection of the area ;
- (4) Shops and offices ;
- (5) Camping sites ;
- (6) Smoke abatement ;
- (7) Swimming baths and pools ;
- (8) Eradication of bed bugs.

Details of the above services are found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

4.—Schools. Though there have been no changes of importance in the quality and size of the accommodation during the year, new schools at Alferton approached completion. This group will set a standard which it is to be hoped will soon be attained throughout the District.

SECTION D.

Housing.

Information on this subject will be found in the Surveyor's and Chief Sanitary Inspector's Reports.

Housing Statistics.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Scarlet Fever.—62 cases. This compares with 148 cases in 1937. The type was mild and sequelæ were not serious. The cases were fairly evenly distributed throughout the various school areas.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.—Five cases. None of these were of a serious nature, and all recovered.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—One case. A mild case with no permanent results.

Diphtheria.—71 cases, 3 deaths. 12 cases in 1937. The monthly distribution was : January, 3 cases ; February, 3 cases ; March, 4 cases ; April, no cases ; May, 2 cases ; June,

2 cases ; July, 5 cases ; August, 2 cases : September, 9 cases ;
October, 8 cases; November, 10 cases; December, 23 cases.

In the first three quarters of the year the cases were evenly distributed throughout the District. In the last quarter, Alferton and Riddings were responsible about equally for most of the cases. The epidemic lasted for about two months in 1939, and then died out.

Pneumonia.—38 cases, 13 deaths. It will be seen that more than one third of the cases of Pneumonia reported proved fatal. It is difficult to find reasons for this great mortality, which is much in excess of the average. I have considered the details of these cases, and have come to the conclusion that it is due to a coincidence, which larger number would bring down to the normal proportion. There is no doubt that modern treatment of this disease will much reduce its danger.

No action was taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness, or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

Infectious Diseases.

Cases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1938.

			Notified	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Small Pox	...	...	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	61	58	0
Diphtheria	...	...	71	60	3
Enteric (Typhoid) Fever	...	...	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	...	}	5	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...				
Acute Polio-Myelitis	...	...	1	0	0
Erysipelas	...	...	6	0	0
Other Diseases—					
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	1	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	38	0	13
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			183	118	16

Cases of Notifiable Diseases at varying Ages.

Years—Under 1		1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Ttl.
Disease													
Small Pox	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	0	1	1	3	7	6	25	9	2	6	1	0
Diphtheria	...	0	0	0	1	3	3	34	13	12	4	0	1
Enteric Fever, includ- ing Para-Typhoid		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...												

Other Diseases generally notifiable—

Ophthalmia

Neonatorum	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Acute Polio-Myelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Erysipelas	...	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	1	6
Pneumonia	...	1	3	3	1	2	2	0	1	6	7	8	4	38
		2	4	4	5	12	12	60	24	25	17	12	6	183

Tuberculosis.—New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 ...	0	2	3	3	0	0	0	0
5 ...	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 ...	0	3	0	1	1	3	0	0
25 ...	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
35 ...	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
45 ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 ...	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0
65 ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5	10	4	4	2	7	1	0

All Notified.

England and Wales.

Death Rates from Tuberculosis and Cancer, and Maternal Mortality, 1938.

Provisional death rates per million population for England and Wales during the year 1938 are as follows :—

	Males	Females	Persons
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	650	423	532
Other Tuberculosis ...	114	93	103
Cancer ...	1,652	1,676	1,664

The maternal mortality (provisional) based on deaths primarily classed to puerperal conditions is as follows :—

Puerperal Sepsis :—

Per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	0.89
Per 1,000 Total Births	...	...	0.86

Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition :—

Per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	2.19
Per 1,000 Total Births	...	...	2.11

Factories Act, 1937.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors :—

	No. of Inspect- tions	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	59	2	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	22	0	0
Workplaces (including Outworkers' Premises)	139	0	0
	<hr/> 220	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 0

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—

	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied	Returned to H.M. Inspector	Prose- cutions
Want of cleanliness ...	1	1	0	0
Other nuisances ...	2	2	0	0
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises :—

Nature of Work	Instances
Wearing apparel making ...	1
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...	29
Total ...	<hr/> 30

SYDNEY O. BINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

ALFRETON URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death (Civilians only)					Males.	Females.	Total.
All Causes	...	...	...	...	119	99	218
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...				—	—	—
2 Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
6 Influenza	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
7 Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	4	6	10
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
11 Syphilis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13 Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	17	14	31
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
16 Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	27	18	45
17 Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
18 Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	7	9	16
19 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	10	3	13
21 Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
22 Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
23 Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
24 Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
25 Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
26 Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
27 Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
29 Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
30 Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
31 Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	8	8	16
32 Senility	...	...	...	...	3	8	11
33 Suicide	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
34 Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
35 Other defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	10	11	21
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Diarrhœa, 2 years and over	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)							
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	...	...	...	Total	10	11	21
„ „ „	...	...	...	Legitimate	10	10	20
„ „ „	...	...	...	Illegitimate	0	1	1
Live Births	Total	...	...	...	165	160	325
	Legitimate	...	...	...	160	152	312
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	5	8	13
Stillbirths	Total	...	...	...	8	16	24
	Legitimate	...	...	...	8	16	24
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Population (resident)					21,850.		

S.D. 55.

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death Rates, and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938.

{ England and Wales,
London, 126 Great
Towns, and 148
Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Population				
Births.				
Live	15·1	15 0	15·4	13·4
Still	0·60	0·65	0·60	0·48
Deaths.				
All Causes... ..	11·6	11·7	11·0	11·4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—
Small Pox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0·04	0·05	0 03	0·06
Scarlet Fever	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Whooping Cough	0·03	0·03	0 02	0 03
Diphtheria... ..	0·07	0·07	0·06	0·05
Influenza	0·11	0·10	0 11	0·06
Notifications.				
Small Pox	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2·41	2·60	2 58	2·05
Diphtheria	1·58	1·85	1·53	1·90
Enteric Fever	0 03	0·03	0·04	0·05
Erysipelas	0·40	0·46	0·39	0·46
Pneumonia	1·10	1·28	0·98	0·98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis under 2 years of age	5·5	7·8	3·6	13·1
Maternal Mortality.				
Puerperal Sepsis	0·89	} Not available		
Others	2·19			
Total	3·08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live & Still)				
Maternal Mortality.				
Puerperal Sepsis	0·86	} Not available		
Others	2·11			
Total	2·97			
Notifications.				
Puerperal Fever	} 14·42	18 08	12·51	{ 3·53 15·46
Puerperal Pyrexia				

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following particulars relate to the year 1938 :—

Water Supply.

	Gallons.
Supplied by the Derwent Valley Water Board ...	90,968,000
Pumped from Lea Hall Borehole ...	75,059,000
„ „ Lindway Borehole ...	2,360,000
Supplied from Impounding Reservoirs ...	52,851,000
Total ...	221,238,000

The daily average was 606,131 gallons, or 20,405 more than the average of the year before.

The following figures relate to the year ended 30th September, 1938, and are based upon the assumption that the population supplied by the Council is 19,466 :—

	Gallons per head per day
For domestic and public purposes ...	21.718
„ trade purposes ...	9.085
Total ...	30.803

As compared with the previous year there was an increase of 1.443 gallons under the domestic heading, and of .125 of a gallon under the trade heading.

There were 281 metered supplies on September 30th.

Rainfall Registered at Lindway (595 feet above sea level).

Year ...	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Inches ...	32.35	34.07	33.34	35.29	27.24	24.42

Measureable rain was recorded on 171 days. The wettest month was December, with 5.38 inches; and the driest, April, with .22 of an inch. February, March and April were exceptionally dry, rain being registered only on 18 days out of 89 and amounting in all to just over an inch and a half, a quantity nearly equalled on the wettest day of the year, October 3rd.

The Urban District Council of Alfreton and the Rural District Council of Belper.

As the result of complaints by the Rural District Council of Belper that the water supply to their Crich-South Wingfield-Pentrich area had been prejudicially affected by the Council's

pumping at Lea Hall Borehole an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Health met representatives of the two Councils at Derby on April 23rd, when it was agreed that Alfreton should give an emergency supply of water at South Wingfield and Lea.

A 3in. connection was made at Birches Lane, South Wingfield, on April 25th, and an inch connection was made at Lea on April 28th. Up to December 31st 5,708,000 gallons were supplied to South Wingfield and 960,000 gallons were supplied at Lea.

The matters in dispute between the two Councils were referred, by the Ministry of Health, under the Arbitration Acts, 1889 to 1934, to S. R. Raffety, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., for determination. He sat at Derby on September the 29th and heard the evidence and arguments of the parties concerned. By the terms of his award the Council is to make up any deficiency in the yield of the Lea or Dethick Spring below 130,000 gallons a day by supplying water into the Upper Holloway Reservoir of the Rural Council and, for all water so supplied, the Rural Council is to pay twopence per thousand gallons in respect of the cost of pumping. The Council is also to supply, upon request, additional water not exceeding 20,000 gallons per day, at the rate of eightpence per thousand gallons.

Housing.

During the year a contract was let for the erection, at Wheatley Avenue and Smedley Avenue, Somercotes, of 44 houses for Slum Clearance.

Of these 6 have 6 bedrooms

8	„	5	„
8	„	4	„
16	„	3	„
and 6	„	2	„

The number of new houses provided by Private Enterprise was 83, 8 less than last year.

Advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923, were made to 16 persons to enable them to become owners of a dwelling house.

Ambulance.

A free motor ambulance service is maintained by the Council for accident and medical cases arising in the Urban District. By arrangement with the Derbyshire County Council the ambulance is available for road accident cases which happen outside the district but is not available for medical cases arising in neighbouring districts.

Complaints have been considered by the Council that the ambulance service has been abused, but after consultation

with representative Medical Practitioners it was decided to continue the transport of out-patients, as it appeared that this was necessary if such persons were to have the advantage of the special services and apparatus available only at a General Hospital.

Sewerage.

A rain storm of exceptional severity occurred on the afternoon of July 24th, and several low-lying areas were flooded, notably at Lower Somercotes, Sleetmoor Lane and Nuttall Street. To mitigate this condition storm overflow sewers were laid, 165 yards of 15in. pipes, 25 yards of 12in. pipes, and 380 yards of 9in. pipes being used.

In view of the Council's decision to carry out the general conversion of pan closets to the water carriage system, it was decided to obtain the advice of a Civil Engineer as to the adequacy of the sewerage and sewage disposal systems.

Colliery subsidence has greatly affected the outfall sewers at Meadow Lane and Highfield, and their re-construction is now a matter of urgency.

Highways.

Widenings and improvements were made at Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes, and at Alfreton Road, Swanwick.

A traffic island was made at Leabrooks Corner, and pedestrian crossing places were made at Greenhill Lane (Dr. Allison's corner), George Street, Riddings, and Riddings Hill. Traffic lines for pedestrians were marked at "The Four Lane Ends," Swanwick, where traffic is controlled by light signals.

Pleasure Grounds.

A cricket pitch was laid at Riddings Recreation Ground and a garden was laid out adjoining the Council Offices at Cornhill House.

Air Raid Precautions.

In this connection the whole district was surveyed and additional fire hydrants were fixed where the number was judged inadequate.

The task of manning the First Aid Post, to be established at Marshall Street School, Alfreton, has been entrusted to the Alfreton and Somercotes Divisions of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and enough volunteers to man the post have been recruited and trained.

R. F. WARD,

Surveyor and Water Engineer.

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban
District Council of Alfreton.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the work of your Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1938.

The Report is compiled in accordance with directions contained in a Memorandum from the Ministry of Health, and as required by Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926.

Legislation passed during the year and affecting the departmental staff is as follows :—

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

This Act, which comes into force on the 1st of October, 1939, consolidates with Amendments certain enactments relating to food, drugs, markets, slaughter-houses, and knackers' yards. It will undoubtedly facilitate the action to be taken by local authorities in connection with these matters.

It is of passing interest to note that partial repeal of certain Acts, going back as far as Henry VIII. and as recently as the Factory Act, 1937, is made ; and the

Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938.

This Act, which came into operation on 1st January this year, regulates the hours of employment of persons under the age of eighteen years employed in certain occupations. It is in reality carrying a step further the type of legislation contained in the Shops Act, 1934, as respects young persons, and also amends the Shops Act of 1934 in some respects.

Complaints.

During the year 188 complaints were received and were as follows :—

General housing defects	22	Dirty houses	...	4
Flooding	...	Infestation by rats	...	5
Dampness	...	Ashpits	...	3
Defective roofs	...	Defective water closets	...	7
Defective drains	...	Keeping of animals	...	3
Choked drains	...	Ceilings	...	1
Ashbins	...	Offensive smells	...	7
Smoke nuisances	...	Offensive accumulations	...	6
Water supply	...	Cooking ranges	...	3

Poultry keeping	...	3	Overcrowding	...	3
Absence of lavatory			Nightsoil pails	...	16
accommodation	...	2	Rainwater downspouts	...	2
Garden refuse	...	1	Water in cellars	...	5
Infestation by insects	...	19	Miscellaneous	...	23

Since rat bait has been provided by the Council it is pleasing to note that complaints of rats have not been so numerous; but rat bait alone will not keep these vermin in check.

If people are so apathetic in this matter, rats can be expected as a matter of course.

Details of Sanitary Improvements effected during the Year.

Closets, Ashpits, etc.

Defective privies, pail closets and ashpits (not for conversion)	83
Conversion of pail closets into water closets	... .. 44
Defective water closets repaired	... .. 28
Provision of additional water closets	... .. 12
Provision of portable ashbins	... .. 195
Conversion of privies to pails	... .. 2
Conversion of slop closets to W.C.'s	... .. 2

Drainage.

Defective waste pipes, traps, inlets and drains	... 399
Drains cleansed	... .. 36

Other Defects.

Paving of courts and yards	75	Roofs, eaves gutters, and	
Sinks	... .. 33	downspouts	... 185
Windows	... .. 88	Insufficient ventilation	... 12
Water in cellars	... .. 7	Dampness	... 87
Overcrowding abated	... .. 25	Water supply	... 20
Offensive accumulations		Foul condition of houses	17
removed	... .. 11	Animals improperly kept	7
Smoke nuisances	... .. 7	Urinals	... .. 24
Nuisances not specified	1854		

Sanitary Accommodation.

Number of privies	... 58
„ pail closets	... 2,216
„ water closets	... 4,167
„ slop closets	... 35
„ ashpits	... 800

Conversions during the Year.

Pail closets to water closets	...	...	44
Slop closets to water closets	..	.	2
Additional water closets (excluding new houses)			12
Ashpit to bins ..	...	...	49
Ashbins provided	...	...	195

Now that a better water supply is available, and contributions can be obtained, it is to be hoped that a year or two will see the end of pail closets and privies. Another pleasing feature is the great reduction in the number of ashpits; but as notices served in 1938 have been complied with early this year, the figures cannot be included in this year's report. In the areas in which house refuse is not collected by the Council, the owners are abolishing ashpits and providing bins when approached.

Public Cleansing.

The lorry which was formerly employed partly on refuse collection and partly on work for the Surveyor has had to be employed solely on refuse collection, so that four lorries are employed full time on this work.

Bins and ashpits are emptied once per week, which should be quite sufficient if the bins are used in a correct manner. A large amount of coal is recovered at the tip, which, whilst not perhaps of the best class, serves to maintain two fires for the workmen.

Formerly the Council have not undertaken to empty cesspools, and owners have had difficulty in getting them emptied; but as the law now stands the local authority may, upon request, empty cesspools, etc., and make a charge for so doing.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

During the year 9,964 visits of all kinds were made. The details of inspections are as follows:—

Slaughterhouses	...	...	1,393
Food preparing and retailing places	...	...	1,714
Butchers' shops	...	...	1,271
Offensive trades	...	...	42
Interviews	...	...	292
Works in progress	...	...	737
Factories, mechanical power	...	...	43
„ non-mechanical power	...	...	22
„ other premises ..	...	...	139
Nuisances visited	...	...	478
Nuisances abated	...	...	406
Housing inspections	...	...	148

Housing made fit	...	...	61
Infectious diseases	..	.	192
Premises disinfected	...	...	137
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	...	...	76
Petrol and carbide	...	...	12
Common lodging houses	...	...	2
Entertainment places	...	...	50
Drains tested	...	...	160
Bakehouses	...	...	16
Overcrowding	...	...	46
„ abated	...	...	25
Smoke observations	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	2,496

Animals Inspected.

Beasts	...	...	...	783
Calves	...	...	...	25
Pigs	...	...	...	2,093
Sheep	...	...	...	2,107

Notices Served, Etc.

Informal notices	...	...	248
Statutory notices	...	...	1
Letters	...	...	361
Invoices	...	...	454

Licences Issued.

Slaughterhouses	...	...	18
Petrol	...	...	40
Carbide	...	...	14
Milk	...	..	6
Slaughtermen's licences to stun	...	...	8

Factories and Workshops Acts.

Factories on register	...	...	36
Workshops on register	...	..	55
Workplaces on register	...	...	3

The old register will have to be revised in accordance with the Factories Act, 1937.

Inspections were made as follows:

Factories with mechanical power	...	59
„ without mechanical power	..	22
Other premises	...	139

Two written notices were served and complied with.

Outworkers.

There are 30 outworkers in the District, one of which is engaged in the making or repairing of wearing apparel, and 29 in lace curtains or net mending. Visits were not paid during the year.

Bakehouses.

Number in District	...	...	15
Notices served	...	...	1
Nuisances abated	...	...	1
Inspections made	...	...	16

Places of Public Entertainment.

Number of premises	11
--------------------	-----	-----	----

Petrol and Carbide Stores.

Premises licensed to store petroleum	40
Premises licensed to store carbide	14
Storage capacity of petroleum (galls.)	42,900
Storage capacity of carbide (lbs.) . . .	1,232

12 Visits were paid and, with the exception of defective covers giving access to the tanks, all was in order. Instructions to renew covers on storage tanks were given to the owners.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is only one in the District. Two visits were paid during the year and no irregularities observed.

Shops Acts.

Numerous visits continue to be paid and one prosecution resulted.

The practice of warning delinquents was carried out with perhaps some improvement in their readiness to close at the proper times.

Altogether 140 visits were paid, some of them relative to young persons.

The heating of shops presents a difficult problem and has been the subject of deliberation at numerous meetings of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association. Expert knowledge and advice is necessary if the spirit of the Act is to be carried out.

Smoke Abatement.

Only six observations were made during the year. In one case new tubes are being fitted to all boilers to facilitate cleansing of the fires, and special smoke bridges have been

fixed. One factory owner, in his efforts to avoid excessive smoke, has for some time been using best hard steam coal, but in spite of this, I have had to persuade him to attend to the human element.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Particulars of action taken during the year :

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|---|
| (1) (a) Council houses infested | .. | 2 |
| (b) Other houses infested | ... | 8 |
| (i) Council houses disinfested | ... | 2 |
| (ii) Other houses disinfested | ... | 8 |
- (2) The method employed is as formerly, spraying and stoving with special candles.
- (3) Steps are not taken to ensure that belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses.
- (4) The work is done by the Local Authority.
- (5) Education of tenants of infested houses consists of visits by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Housing.

1.—Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | ... | .. | 626 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | | | 1599 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | ... | ... | 56 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | | | 162 |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | ... | ... | 26 |
| (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | .. | ... | 122 |

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	221
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3.—Action under statutory powers during the year :—

- (A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ..	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..	31
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	15
(D)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
4.—Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :—		
(A)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	221
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein ...	240
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	1235½
(B)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	25
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	135
(D)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0

Legal Proceedings.

Two slaughtermen were fined 25/- each inclusive for not slaughtering sheep with a mechanically operated instrument.

Warnings given.

In all, 28 warnings were given to various people for technical offences. In some instances this is a very good practice because it tends to make people realize their responsibilities, but there is a danger if too many are given.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

During the year, one retailer was deleted and one was added to the Register. There were no alterations to the Register of Producers.

Number of Milk Producers on the Register	55
--	----

Number of Milk Retailers on the Register	78
--	----

Cowsheds where lofts were removed	1
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Cowsheds which were cleaned up	1
--------------------------------	-----	-----	---

There are 75 cowsheds in the District and 55 farms.

Milk Samples.

Milk samples were not taken during the year.

Meat and Other Foods.

Inspection of Slaughterhouses	...	1,393
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„ Food Preparing Places	...	908
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„ Butchers' Shops	...	1,271
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„ Markets	...	100
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„ Food Stalls	...	806
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„ Bakehouses	...	16
--------------	-----	----

Meat and other food condemned during the year :—

				lbs.
7	Beasts' carcasses, tuberculosis	5,051
4	„ forequarters	„		653
1	„ brisket	„	...	8
1	„ aitchbone	„		20
69	„ heads	„	...	2,275
123 sets	„ lungs	„		1,460
49	„ hearts	„	...	388
25	„ livers	„		500
3	„ spleens	„	...	21
21	„ mesenteries	„		178

2 sets	Beasts' kidneys and fats, tuberculosis	...	20
4	„ skirts	„	30
7 sets	„ udders	...	154
6 sets	„ intestines	„	55
8	„ strippings	...	160
57 sets	„ fats	„	834
5 sets	„ offals	...	732

Total tubercular beef ... 12,539

Non-Tubercular.

1 Set	beasts' lungs	...	pleurisy ..	...	12
1	„ lungs	...	cysts		40
1	„ lungs	...	distomatosis	...	12
4½	beasts' livers	...	cirrhosis		90
9	„ livers	...	abcesses ...	...	180
9½	„ livers	...	distomatosis		190
6½	„ livers	...	angioma ..	...	130
3	„ stomachs ..		inflammation		190
5 sets	„ udders	...	mastitis ..	...	110
1	„ uterus		inflammation		5
1	„ caulfat	...	pleurisy	...	10
3	„ strippings		adhesion		3

972

86	Pigs' heads	...	tuberculosis	...	1,376
8	„ collars		„		124
58	„ plucks	...	„	...	464
18	„ mesenteries		„		224
6	„ spleens	...	„	...	13
4	„ livers		„		16
1	„ fats	...	„	...	10
6 sets	pigs' offals		„		60
1 set	„ intestines	...	„	...	10

2,297

Non-Tubercular.

1 set	pigs' lungs	...	pneumonia	...	6
1	pigs' pluck		necrosis		8
1	„ liver	..	strongylus	...	4
1	„ carcass and all offals		fevered flesh		163
2	„ lungs	...	congestion	...	6
1	„ liver		cirrhosis		4
1	„ flaying	...	urticaria	...	16
4	„ livers		necrosis		16

223

Mutton condemned.

1 Sheep's head	...	inflammation	...	10
7 „ livers		distomatosis		14
6 „ livers	...	strongylosis	...	18
4 sets „ lungs		cysts		18
59 sets „ lungs	...	strongylosis	...	228
10 „ plucks		strongylosis		40
				<hr/>
				328
Other foods	...	...	...	492
Total of all food condemned :—				lbs.
Beef, tuberculosis	...	...	...	12,539
Beef, other diseases				972
Pork, tuberculosis	...	...	...	2,297
Pork, other diseases				223
Mutton	...	...	...	328
Other foods				492
				<hr/>
				16,851

Total : 7 tons, 10 cwts., 3 stones, 9 lbs.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

			Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	...	...	183	600	25	2,107	2,093
Number of carcasses inspected	..		183	600	25	2,107	2,093
All diseases except tuberculosis—							
Whole carcasses condemned	...		0	0	0	0	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	..		5	38	0	84	12
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	...		2.7%	6.3%	—	4.0%	.57%
Tuberculosis only—							
Whole carcasses condemned	...		1	6	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...		20	188	0	0	194
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	...	...	10.93%	31.33%	—	--	9.26%

Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1938.

The following information is obtained by the courtesy of the County Analyst :—

135 Samples were taken during the year, 42 of which were

of milk. Four samples were classed as unsatisfactory. One sample of milk was deficient of 7% of fat and the vendor was cautioned.

Two samples of baking powder were somewhat deficient in carbon dioxide, and a sample of ammoniated tincture of quinine was deficient in ammonia. The vendors were cautioned.

COSTINGS REPORT ON SERVICES.

This portion of the report consists of the costings of the services under the control of the Public Health Department.

Stables Account.

	£	s.	d.
Shoeing	31	3	10
Fodder	66	13	3
Gas for light and engine ...	1	5	6
Grazing	32	15	0
Veterinary surgeon's fees ...	6	0	0
Horseman's wages	97	6	9
Drivers' wages	26	18	7
Income tax	6	6	9
Water rates	2	4	2
Tools and machinery repairs	0	4	3
Horse hire	7	0	6
Sundries	0	15	9
	<hr/>		
	£278	14	4

1937—£412 7s. 11d.

Cart and Harness Repairs.

	£	s.	d.
Cart repairs	3	16	0
Harness repairs	4	8	1
	<hr/>		
	£8	4	1

1937—£25 7s. 3d.

	£	s.	d.
Cost of horsekeeping	278	14	4
Cost of cart and harness repairs ...	8	4	1
	<hr/>		
	£286	18	5

1937—£437 15s. 2d.

The income is :—

			£	s.	d.
Sale of manure	...	...	0	8	6
Sale of horses			6	0	0
Nightsoil hire	...	...	140	5	0
Tip and farm hire			49	12	11
Hire to Surveyor	...	...	90	12	0
			<hr/>		
			£286	18	5

The cost of upkeep of a horse and cart for the year was therefore £71 14s. 7d., or £1 7s. 7d. per week.

Farm Account.

			£	s.	d.
Horse and cart hire	...	..	7	5	0
Haymaking			8	3	9
Rates	...	...	5	1	3
Water Rates	...	...	2	4	3
Water Rates (Damsteads)	...	...	1	1	4
Rent of Damsteads	...	...	28	15	0
Income Tax	...	...	6	6	10
Principal and Interest Repayment on					
Farm	...	...	94	6	8
Repairs to farm	...	...	2	16	11
Purchase of beasts	...	...	195	0	0
Fodder for beasts	...	...	92	3	6
Rent of field (Edwards)		.	4	0	0
Wages	...	...	40	6	7
Lime	...	...	9	8	6
Sundries	...	...	12	6	9
			<hr/>		
			£509	6	4

1937—£368 16s 0d.

The income is :—

			£	s.	d.
Sale of hay	...	...	2	0	0
Letting of Damsteads	...	...	11	10	0
House Rent	...	...	26	0	0
Refund on lime	...	...	4	12	8
Sale of cattle	...	...	370	5	2
Grading fees	...	...	33	0	0
Grazing	...	...	32	15	0
			<hr/>		
			£480	2	10

1937—£217 9s. 4d.

It will be seen that the whole of the cattle were sold for a sum of £403.

Motors Account.

	Bedford 2			Karrier			Falcon			Bedford 1		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Petrol	64	2	1	49	11	10	48	10	2	78	19	4
Oil	1	19	5	2	3	9	2	7	3	1	18	11
Drivers' Wages ...	143	4	4	159	14	1	156	18	11	140	7	4
Insurance	7	0	3	7	0	3	7	0	3	7	0	3
Depreciation ...	100	0	0	—			50	0	0	100	0	0
Licences	35	15	0	35	15	0	35	5	0	25	5	0
Repairs	2	10	5	19	3	0	34	17	9	11	10	7
Tyres	—			—			—			27	16	0
Garage Rent ...	3	16	0	—			—			6	10	0
Rates	—			0	17	6	0	17	6	—		
Income Tax	—			0	10	3	0	10	3	—		
Cleaning	11	18	7	11	6	1	12	11	6	10	7	5
Sundries	11	2	4	8	10	10	8	16	4	8	11	4
	<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>		
	£381	8	5	£294	12	7	£358	0	11	£418	6	2

Cost of refuse removed by motors :—

	Tons		£	s.	d.
The Bedford 2 removed	2,352	at a cost of	381	8	5
The Karrier	2,479	„ „	294	12	7
The Falcon	2,285	„ „	358	0	11
The Bedford 1	2,807	„ „	418	6	2
The Hired Motors	28	„ „	5	15	6
	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9,951		£1,458	3	7
1937	11,009		£1,466	2	1

The loaders' wages were £1,803 11s. 1d., making a total of £3,261 14s. 8d., giving a figure of 6s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton for collection as compared with 5s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. during 1937. The increase in cost is accounted for by the fact that youths' wages increase with their age, and also that all employees had a reduction in working hours and an increase of wages, and the fourth lorry now employed full time.

Trade Refuse Account.

498 Tons of trade refuse were collected by the motors at a cost of £87 6s. 1d., with loaders' wages at £101 1s. 10d., totalling £188 7s. 11d., which gives a cost of 7s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per ton, as compared with 4s. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. during 1937. The income was £74 15s. 0d., as against £73 10s. 4d. in 1937.

House Refuse Disposal.

			£	s.	d.
Wages on tip	...	...	753	8	3
Drivers' wages	...	...	138	13	4
Horse and cart hire	...	...	42	7	11
Half rent of Bullock Lane Tip	...	...	1	10	0
Principal and Interest repayment on Leabrooks Tip	...	...	44	16	0
Income Tax	...	...	2	17	9
Rates	...	...	3	19	10
Sundries	...	...	7	3	2
			<hr/>		
			£994	16	3

1937—£754 16s. 7d.

10,449 Tons of refuse were disposed of at a cost of 1s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton, as compared with 1s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton in 1937.

Salvage Account.

			£	s.	d.
Wages	...	...	326	11	9
Water Rates	...	...	1	10	6
New Baling Press	...	...	126	0	0
Sundries	...	...	47	16	1
			<hr/>		
			£501	18	4

1937—£349 12s. 2d.

The income was £340 6s. 6d., as against £562 14s. 6d. in 1937. The markets for the various materials fell badly at the beginning of the year, but a slight upward tendency is now being felt.

Nightsoil Collection and Disposal Account.

Collection :—

			£	s.	d.
Drivers' wages	...	...	301	16	11
Loaders' wages	...	...	289	5	5
Horse and cart hire	...	...	140	5	0
Disinfectant powder	...	...	6	0	0
Sundries	...	...	19	17	3
			<hr/>		
			£757	4	3

1937—£684 7s. 5d.

Disposal :—

			£	s.	d.
Half rent of Bullock Lane Tip	...		1	10	0
Wages	...	...	14	8	9
			<hr/>		
			£15	18	9

1937—£5 17s. 8d.

1,389 Tons of nightsoil were collected at a cost of 10s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton, and disposed of at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton, giving a combined cost for collection and disposal of 11s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton, as compared with 9s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in 1937.

Although conversions are being carried out, they are not yet being done in sufficient numbers to warrant a decrease in the staff.

Combined Costing.

Collection of wet and dry refuse—

	Tons		£	s.	d.
Motors	... 9,951	at a cost of	3,261	14	8
Nightsoil	... 1,389	„ „	757	4	7
Trade Refuse	498	„ „	188	7	11
<hr/>			<hr/>		
	11,838		£4,207	7	2
1937	... 12,817		£3,834	0	7

This gives a figure of 7s. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per ton, as compared with 5s. 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. in 1937.

Disposal :—

			£	s.	d.
Cost of dry refuse	...	...	994	16	3
Cost of nightsoil	...	...	15	18	9
			<hr/>		
			£1,010	15	0

1937—£760 14s. 3d.

This gives a figure of 1s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton, as compared with 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per ton in 1937.

In conclusion, I have to thank the members of the Council and my colleagues for the help they have afforded me during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES TINGLE.

